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THE CLASSICAL JOURNAL

VOLUME XI

JANUARY 1916

NUMBER 4

Editorial

ANOTHER WORD ON PUBLICITY FOR THE CLASSICS

The penultimate page of this issue of the *Journal* contains two more articles intended to further the cause of the classics. Members of the Classical Association are urged to cut out this page and to present it as "copy" to a local newspaper with the request that it be published. It happens that both of these articles concern Greek, but Latinists have a duty to Grecians which it will not hurt them to perform. In this cause "we must all hang together, or we shall all hang separately."

The Publicity Committee has been sorely handicapped thus far in its work from lack of contributions, and it appeals to every member of the Association to do his part. The committee understands its proper functions to be those of a clearing-house rather than of a manufacturer. It desires brief articles along the lines described in the *Journal* for March of last year. Articles which show concretely and pointedly the "practical" use of the classics ought to be especially effective. As yet scarcely any articles have been received. The committee will endeavor to find means of disseminating all good material that is presented. It will also be glad to receive suggestions which will help in the work of educating the Philistines. Through education as to the value of the classics we must win, if at all. The enemy is intrenching himself and is gaining the favor of the neutrals. We have the choice of taking our places on the firing-line or of being exterminated.

The pamphlet authorized at Nashville is now ready. It is in the form of a dialogue of only ten pages between *filius* and *pater*, and is entitled "Arguing with Bob." Copies will be sent to all members of the Association. A first edition of 10,000 is being printed. The

committee hopes that many times that number will ultimately be required. In order to finance possible future editions the nominal price for the pamphlet of one cent each, 20 cents for 25, and 70 cents a hundred will be charged. Cash must be sent with the order to the chairman of the committee, Professor C. H. Weeler, Iowa City, Iowa.

“ARGUING WITH BOB”

The bright little pamphlet already mentioned as recently issued by our Publicity Committee represents a father enlightening his son as to the value of the study of the classics, and encouraging him to continue with his Latin. The idea is a happy one in that it brings the father into the discussion of the problem, and it is indeed the interest of the father which should be enlightened and enlisted in this cause, for it is he who ultimately decides the studies which his children are to pursue. We trust that not only every school principal and teacher, but that every father and mother will read and ponder “Arguing with Bob.”

Meanwhile a sermon on the same text has been preached, and the importance of the parents’ intelligent participation in the matter of selection of studies has been driven home by Mr. Harry L. Senger in *The School Index*, the official publication of the Cincinnati public-school system. The editorial is apropos of a suggestion that had recently been made to the school board with reference to a farther retrenchment in the program of Greek studies in the Cincinnati high schools. We quote the editorial in full.

Greek is expensive. The number of pupils electing the subject is small. The teachers of Greek receive the maximum salary. Therefore the per capita cost is high.

The suggestion was made that Greek classes be consolidated, so as to save expense. The suggestion was to be expected in view of the School Board’s straitened finances.

Nevertheless, the situation seems to have given quite a shock to the community. Members of the Union Board of High Schools deplored the waning interest in Greek. The daily press lamented it; the Times-Star published a regretful editorial on the subject.

Some of the statements made about the matter were false—statements that something else was to be substituted for Greek or that somebody in authority was endeavoring to have the study of Greek abolished. The Superintendent’s office is friendly to Greek. Superintendent Condon, in his report to the Union Board, intimated that, in his opinion, there was no equivalent for Greek.